

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, which ~~has~~, ~~having~~ as its object the production of Mn minitabets or tablets with a concentration between 90 and 98 wt% of said ~~manganesemetal~~, starting from a mixture of powdered α -Mn and Al[[,]] for the alloying of aluminum and other metal baths, which comprises:

- (a) grinding electrolytic Mn from flakes of a chemical purity of 99.7 wt% or more, and
- (b) mixing said powdered α -Mn with Al powder atomized by mechanical means, with wherein said Al powder has a controlled grain size distribution between 100 and 800 microns[[,]] and with over 80 wt% of said Al powder is between 350 and 720 microns, and
- (c) ~~while a checking to insure that the is made on the Mn grinding such that a~~ content of fine α -Mn powder with a size of less than 100 microns[[,]] is not more than 15% by volume.

2. **(Previously presented)** The method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, according to claim 1, characterized in that the ground electrolytic Mn is subjected to a screening process with a sieve with a mesh of less than 450 microns.

3. **(Currently amended)** The method for the manufacture of high concentration manganese minitabets for aluminum bath alloying, according to claim 1, characterized in that the levels of the Mn and Al, ~~mix~~ in the corresponding compacting means are monitored by respective sensors to keep this mix level between limits that assure the execution of the actual compacting.

4-5. **(Canceled)**